

REMARKS

The Information Disclosure Statements

Applicants wish to bring to the Examiner's attention that three Information Disclosure Statements have been filed in the present case. In particular, an IDS was filed September 14, 2001, a Supplemental IDS was filed September 18, 2001, a second Supplemental IDS was filed December 3, 2004 and a third Supplemental IDS is being filed concurrently herewith. The first two of these IDSs appear in the PAIR system. Applicants request that the Examiner return initialed copies of the PTO-1449 forms submitted with these IDSs.

The Restriction Requirement

In response to the Restriction Requirement of December 1, 2004, Applicants hereby elect Invention I, corresponding to Claims 1-10, 20 and 22. Applicants have cancelled Claims 11-19, 21 and 23. Applicants assume that the indication of Invention II as including Claims 10-16 was in error and that Invention II actually includes Claims 11-19, 21 and 23. If such assumption is incorrect, Applicants request that the Examiner indicate such so as to allow Applicants an opportunity to reintroduce Claims 17-19, 21 and 23 into the present application. This cancellation is being done without prejudice to the filing of any divisional application for these and/or other claims. This election is without traverse because Applicants agree that a determination of the unpatentability of Invention I would not necessarily imply the unpatentability of Invention II.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request favorable examination and allowance of Claims 1-10, 20 and 22.

Respectfully submitted,

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